if no alteration had been made in the times or places of holding the said courts respectively.

Approved, May 27, 1796.

Statute I.

May 27, 1796.

Chap. XXXV.—*An Act in addition to an act intituled "An act supplementary to the act, intituled An act to provide more effectually for the Collection of the Duties on Goods, Wares and Merchandise imported into the United States, and on the Tonnage of Ships or Vessels."*

[Obsolete.]

Certain new districts and ports of delivery established.

1799, ch. 22.
Ante, p. 420.

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That from and after the last day of June next, there shall be established, the following new districts and ports of delivery, to wit: In the state of Massachusetts, a district to be called the district of Ipswich; which shall include the waters and shores within the said town of Ipswich, which shall be the sole port of entry of the same: And a collector shall be appointed, to reside in the said town of Ipswich; and thenceforward, the office of surveyor for the said port shall cease. In the state of New Jersey, a district, to be called the district of Little Egg Harbor, which shall comprehend all the shores, waters, bays, rivers and creeks from Barnegat inlet to Brigantine inlet, both inclusively; and the town of Tuckerton shall be the sole port of entry for the said district: And a collector for the same shall be appointed, to reside at the said town of Tuckerton; and thenceforward, the office of surveyor for the port of Little Egg Harbor shall cease. In the state of Maryland, a district, to be called the district of Havre-de-Grace; which shall include all the shores and waters of the Chesapeake bay, above Turkey point and Spes Utiæ island: And a collector shall be appointed, to reside at Havre-de-Grace, which shall be the sole port of entry for the same. In the district of Newburyport, the town of Newbury shall be a port of delivery: In the district of Dighton, the towns of Berkley and Taunton shall be ports of delivery.

Alteration of certain districts.

Ante, p. 420.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That from and after the last day of June next, the district of Hudson, in the state of New York, shall be confined to the limits of the city of Hudson; and all other places, which were, by the act, intituled "An act supplementary to the act, intituled An act to provide more effectually for the collection of the duties on goods, wares and merchandise imported into the United States, and on the tonnage of ships or vessels," included in the said district of Hudson, shall be annexed to the district of New York. And the description of the district of Waldoborough, in the said recited act, shall be so far altered, as, instead of saying, "A place called Duck-trap," to say, "that part of a place called Duck-trap, which lies between the towns of Camden and Northport;" and, instead of saying, "All the shores and waters from the middle of Damarascotty river to Duck trap," to say, "all the shores and waters from the middle of Damarascotty river, to the southwardly side of the town of Northport." That, in the state of Maryland, the district of Cedar-point shall be called the district of Nanjemoy; which shall be the sole port of entry and delivery for the said district; and the collector shall reside at Nanjemoy. And that in the district of Nantucket, in the state of Massachusetts, the name of the port of Sherburne shall be changed to the port of Nantucket. *Provided always,* that no alteration in the name or description of the said districts shall be construed to affect the compensation of the officers thereof.

Proviso.

Collectors to be appointed under this act to give security, &c.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the collectors to be appointed in conformity with this act, shall each become bound in the sum of two thousand dollars, in manner, as is by law provided in like cases: And the same duties, authorities and fees of office, with a similar distribution thereof, shall appertain to those appointments as are now in like cases

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authorized by law. And the collectors aforesaid shall each receive two per centum on all monies by them respectively received; and shall also, respectively, receive the allowance of one hundred dollars, annually, from and after the said last day of June next.

Approved, May 27, 1796.

Statute I.

May 28, 1796.

Chap. XXXVI.—*An Act for the relief and protection of American Seamen.*

Act of March 2, 1799, ch. 36.

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, be, and hereby is authorized to appoint two or more agents; the one of whom shall reside in the kingdom of Great Britain, and the others at such foreign ports, as the President of the United States shall direct. That the duty of the said agents shall be, under the direction of the President of the United States, to inquire into the situation of such American citizens or others, sailing, conformably to the law of nations, under the protection of the American flag, as have been, or may hereafter be impressed or detained by any foreign power, to endeavour, by all legal means, to obtain the release of such American citizens or others, as aforesaid; and to render an account of all impressments and detentions whatever, from American vessels, to the executive of the United States.

Two agents to be appointed.

Their duties.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That if it should be expedient to employ an additional agent or agents, for the purposes authorized by this law, during the recess of the Senate, the President alone be, and hereby is, authorized to appoint such agent or agents.

Additional agents may be appointed during the recess of the Senate.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized to draw, annually, out of the treasury of the United States, a sum not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars, not otherwise appropriated, to be applied by him in such proportions as he shall direct, to the payment of the compensation of the said agents, for their services, and the incidental expenses attending the performance of the duties imposed on them by this act.

Appropriation.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the collector of every district shall keep a book or books, in which, at the request of any seaman, being a citizen of the United States of America, and producing proof of his citizenship, authenticated in the manner hereinafter directed, he shall enter the name of such seaman, and shall deliver to him a certificate, in the following form, that is to say: "I, A. B., collector of the district of D., do hereby certify, That E. F., an American seaman, aged years, or thereabouts, of the height of feet inches, [describing the said seaman as particularly as may be] has, this day, produced to me proof in the manner directed in the act, intituled "An act for the relief and protection of American seamen;" and, pursuant to the said act, I do hereby certify, that the said E. F. is a citizen of the United States of America: In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office, this day of ." And it shall be the duty of the collectors aforesaid, to file and preserve the proofs of citizenship produced, as aforesaid: And for each certificate delivered, as aforesaid, the said collectors shall be entitled to receive from the seaman applying for the same, the sum of twenty-five cents.

Collectors to grant certificates of citizenship.

Sec. 5. And, in order that full and speedy information may be obtained of the seizure or detention, by any foreign power, of any seamen employed on board any ship or vessel of the United States, *Be it further enacted,* That it shall, and hereby is declared to be the duty of the master of every ship or vessel of the United States, any of the crew whereof shall have been impressed or detained by any foreign power, at

In case of the impressment or detention of seamen, master of the ship to make a protest, &c.